IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kiyotaka Matsuno, et al.

Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- 1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. JP 2002-224124 published August 13, 2002; and
- Japanese Utility Model Application KOUKOKU Publication No. JP 53-20957 published June 1, 1978.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below

Dated: December 14, 2009

/Thomas Spinelli/ Thomas Spinelli Reference 1 was cited in an Official Action dated October 13, 2009 received from the Japanese Patent Office, a copy of which is attached. Reference 2 was cited in an Official Action dated October 6, 2009 received from the Japanese Patent Office, a copy of which is attached. Please note that the other reference cited in the Japanese Office Action dated October 6, 2009 was previously cited in Applicants IDS filed February 6, 2002. Applicants are submitting copies of the above references, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding all of the references from the Official Actions. The

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of two Official Actions by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. The requisite official fee pursuant to § 1.17(p) of \$180.00 has been charged to

Deposit Account 191013.

Respectfully submitted,

/Thomas Spinelli/ Thomas Spinelli Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser, P.C. 400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 300 Garden City, New York 11530 (516) 742-4343 TS:cm